

patent to relieve me from my oath of fidelity, which I had certainly kept faithfully in spite of all his ill-treatment of me. He at first appeared ^{SOUK}*what surprised at my request, and, after a little hesitation, he said, 'There is a preliminary condition to be fulfilled ; a question has been raised by one of the members of the Privy Council.⁷ — 'What condition. Sire ? ' — 'You must pledge yourHelf not to bear arms against me.^{1—f} Does your Majesty suppose that i can bind myself by such an engagement ? My election by the Diet of Sweden, which has

• met with your Majesty's assent, has made me a Swedish subject, and that character is incompatible with the pledge proposed by a member of the Council. I am sure it could never have emanated from your Majesty, and must proceed from the. Arch-Chancellor or the Grand Judge, wh6 certainly could not have been aware of the height to which the proposition would raise me.' — * What do you mean '/^f —ⁱ I f, Sire, you prevent me accepting a crown unless I pledge myself not to bear arms against you, do you not really place nit*, on a level with you as a General ? *

^{k*} When I. declared positively that my election must make me consider myself a Swedish subject he frowned, and Heemed embarrassed. When I had done speaking he said, in a low and faltering voice, * Well, go. Our destinies will soon be accomplished !¹ These words were uttered so indistinctly that I was obliged to beg pardon for not having heard what he said, and he repeated, * < So! our destinies will noon be accomplished !' In the¹ subsequent conversations which I had with the Emperor I tried all possible means to remove the unfavorable sentiments hit cherished towards "me. I revived my recollection of history. I spoke to him of the great men who had excited the admiration of Urn world, of the difficulties and obstacles winch they had to surmount;

"and, above all, I dwelt upon that solid glory which is founded on the establishment and maintenance of public tranquillity and happiness. The Emperor listened to me attentively, and frequently concurred, in my opinion its to the principles of the prosperity and stability of States. OHO day lie took my hand and pressed it affectionately, as if to

assure me of